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16th Sustainment Brigade

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16th STB 'Jedi Knights' build new aid station from ground up

By Sgt. Shawn Casey
16th SB Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany — Leaders and Soldiers of the 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade assembled to show support for the medical platoon of the 16th STB as the medics opened a new aid station here Feb. 5.

Cpt. Carmen Rosado, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th STB commander, officiated over the ribbon cutting ceremony at the aid station.

The aid station will see all Soldiers from the 16th Sust. Bde. headquarters and the 16th STB and provide treatment for their general medical needs. This will allow speedy service and rapid return to duty for all the Soldiers.

Opening this aid station will reduce the workload on the clinic, plus keep the medical platoon constantly in a state of readiness with less training required, said Sgt. Jayson Clark, the treatment noncommissioned officer at the 16th Sust. Bde. aid station and a native of Calamazoo, Mich.

According to Staff Sgt. Michael Shaw, this aid station took blood, sweat and tears to complete.

“The aid station was provided for us, but it was completely empty,” said Shaw, a pharmacy noncommissioned officer with the 16th Sust. Bde. and a native of Kinnelon,

N.J. “We weren’t discouraged. It became a challenge. We were able to save a lot of furniture from being thrown away. We did a lot of networking and traveling to pull together what we have. The Soldiers played a big part in building this place from scratch.”

Among the recovered equipment and furniture – from places as far as Weisbaden and Baumholder – were chairs, desks, beds, medical cabinets, phones, screens and a crash cart.

“We took a lot of trips to the hardware store too,” said Spc. Aaron Lloyd, a 16th Sust. Bde. medical evacuation specialist and a native of St. George, Utah. “A lot of the furniture was fairly damaged but repairable. We brought the equipment up to regulation standards for an aid station.”

Along with the aid station, a sense of pride and camaraderie was built.

“We’re very proud of this place,” said Shaw. “This challenge has turned us into a family.”

Overcoming the challenges associated with building a facility such as this in a relatively short amount of time has proved to be a great learning experience for all the Soldiers involved. According to Staff Sgt. Robert Norton, the medic platoon sergeant, 16th STB, this has earned the medical platoon the nickname “Jedi Knights.”

“I named us the Jedi Knights,” said Norton, a native of Tallahassee, Fla., “because of the Jedi ideology of do no harm, help as many as you can, fight only if you have to and vigorously defend our own at all cost.”



David Lindahn, a pharmacy noncommissioned officer with the 16th Special Troops Battalion, fills a prescription on the opening day of the new 16th Sustainment Brigade aid station. (Photo by Sgt. Shawn T. Casey, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)



Spc. Kayla Bush-Williams, a patient administration specialist at the new 16th

Sustainment Brigade aid station, greets Soldiers as they enter the facility. (Photo by Sgt. Shawn T. Casey, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)



Spc. Heather Hughes finishes a patient's administrative paperwork after a check-up at the new 16th Sustainment Brigade aid station. (Photo by Sgt. Shawn T. Casey, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)